

Wasatch County Families

Wave 2-16-84



Wasatch County residents have been the Primary Children's Hospital residents who have used it express

Pam Bryner thought the way the people at Primary took care of her was almost as important as the way they took care of little Emily. Emily had infantile botulism that she probably got from dust in the air and was in the ICU at Primary for several weeks. A child is never alone; there are always parents who are worried, tired and need help getting through the ordeal, too. Emily's daddy Steve has medical training but the terrible seriousness of the illnesses in the ICU can be frightening and overwhelming to anyone.

About a year ago Layne Clyde was watching the KSL telethon for Primary's Pennies by the Inch. His wife May was pregnant at the time and on impulse he called in a pledge, thinking "What if our child needed Primary?" Jamay Clyde was born shortly after with a serious infection that could cause blindness, deafness, brain dam-

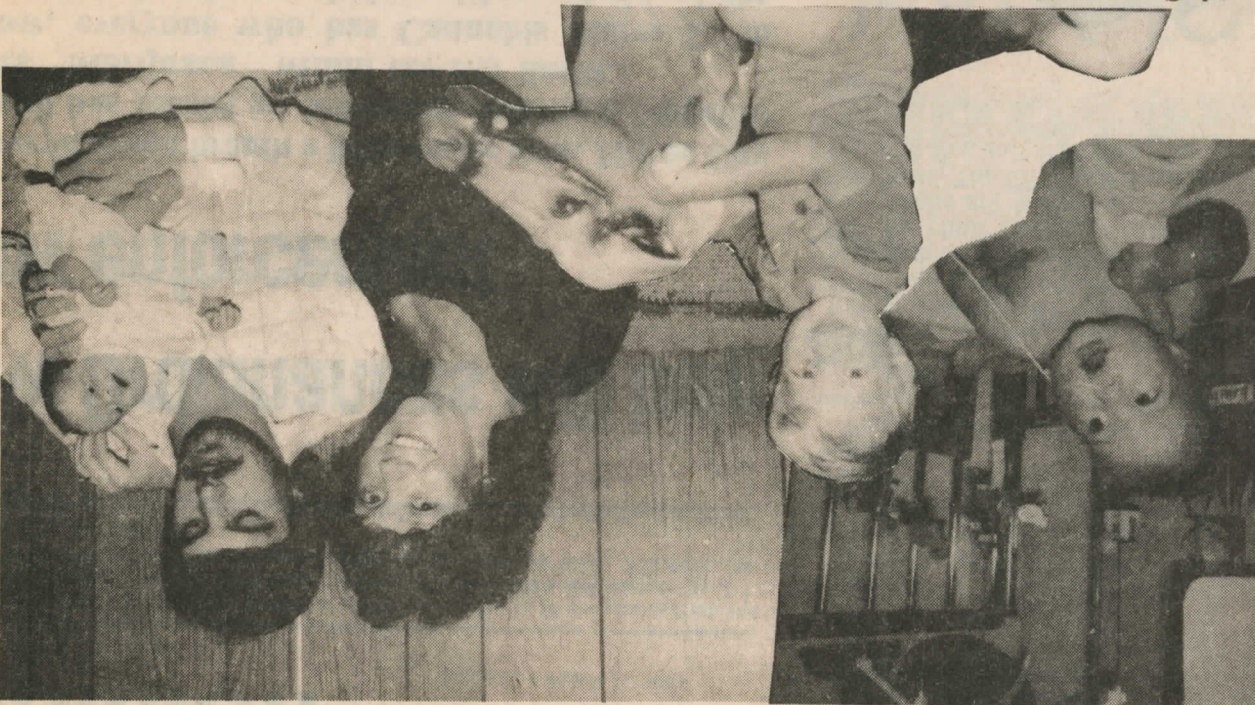
Just this last Sunday the helicopter from Primary Children's Medical Center landed behind Wasatch County Hospital. Inside the staff of the hospital was doing everything possible to care of a critically ill 9 month old baby. However, this child had a serious infection of the heart and needed the special equipment and heart specialists at Primary. The transport team had arrived less than thirty minutes after they were called. They made sure nothing more needed to be done as they prepared the baby for his flight. They also called Primary so everything would be ready for them when they arrived. Within minutes after they got back to Salt Lake the small boy's heart wasn't able to take the strain and couldn't pump enough blood to circulate. He is still in the ICU but because everything was ready to take care of his problem, Chase Wright will live to learn to play ball with his dad. And you know, nobody even asked who was going to pay for all this, it just needed to be done.

Virginia and Ben Giles will never forget the morning they couldn't wake up 2 year old Jimmy. They brought Jimmy to our hospital and after some initial testing he was flown to Primary. Jimmy had encephalitis and was in a coma for what seemed like forever. His Mom feels the careful and caring treatment Jimmy got saved his life. She can also tell you how incredibly expensive life saving intensive care can be. The Giles family had insurance but they knew that many of the other parents were worrying about being able to pay the huge bills. Families who didn't have any way to pay for the expensive care their critically ill children needed were relieved to learn that at Primary the child comes first. That's what Pennies by the Inch is for, to pay the way for children who couldn't be there otherwise. Incidentally, Jimmy is now a normal three year old TORNADO and his family wouldn't have it any other way.

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Families Owe Primary Children's Lives



Wasatch County residents have been lucky in having Primary Children's Hospital so close. Those students who have used it express their appreciation. Jimmy Giles (on horse) and daughter Jamay (left) and Mrs. Layne Clyde and daughter Jamay (left) and Emily Bryner (upper left).

age or even death. She went to Primary Children's at a few days of age for diagnosis and management of her disease. She is now a bright, healthy and irresistibly adorable 10 month old who is learning about the world of sound with the help of hearing aids and the specialists at Primary who took care of her. Her daddy won't ever regret that contribution.

Dr. Kitty Ferguson, a local pediatrician says that one of the reasons she decided to practice in Heber was that Primary was close enough to help in an emergency. She says, "Most illnesses aren't like these and can be taken care of quite well at our community hospital. We can even take care of these critically ill kids here until we can get them on the way to Primary. But we will never be able to have the specialized equipment and personnel that make Primary so special." Dr. Ferguson also comments that the willingness of

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the specialists at Primary to answer questions and give advice take a lot better care of our kids here because Primary is there." All five of these Wasatch County families feel they owe a great deal to the fact that Primary was there when they needed it. There is not another hospital between Denver and the west coast that can do what Primary did for these kids. None of these parents can imagine turning away a sick child just because there wasn't enough money. That's why they agreed to tell their story. They have all done everything they can to make Pennies by the Inch a success: never saying no to a needy child is what it's all about. Please be generously tall! Have you already said no? (If you've changed your mind, you can drop a contribution at the Wave, Wasatch County Hospital or your ward.)